Universität zu Köln

1 PhD position in astronomy and astrophysics

Applications are invited for one PhD positions in the group of Prof. Dr. Lucas Labadie at the 1st Physics Institute of the University of Cologne, Germany. The position is funded for up to three years.

Our institute is already strongly involved in several international projects such as the VLTI, LBT, SOFIA, JWST, ALMA. In the context of the new involvement of the institute in the **E-ELT** instrumentation program, the 1st Physics Institute is responsible for the design, procurement, manufacturing and integration of the Warm Calibration Unit (WCU) of the **METIS/ELT** instrument. The METIS mid-IR imager and spectrograph, constructed by a consortium of European institutions recently joined by the University of Cologne, has its first light expected around 2028. Our involvement in METIS is motivated by the unique science opportunities offered in the field of star and planet formation, one of the central astrophysics theme of our institute

The successful candidate will work towards a PhD thesis in Experimental Physics/Astrophysics covering both an instrumentation and astrophysics subject. He will be member of the local METIS team composed of a Project Manager (PM), System Engineer (SE), Optical and Mechanical scientist/engineer. He/she will 1) develop the experimental tools and lab breadboards to demonstrate the instrumental solutions envisioned for the WCU, 2) contribute to the design and validation of the corresponding sub-systems throughout the project lifetime, 3) exploit our astrophysical data on YSOs obtained mainly from VLT/VLTI, 4) contribute the preparation of science cases on protoplanetary disks with the new interferometer MATISSE at the VLTI.

Applicants should hold the equivalent of a MSc or Diploma degree in astrophysics, astronomy or physics. She/He should ideally also have a strong background in fields associated to astronomical instrumentation or/and in observational astronomy. The working language is English. The salary is based on the E13 TV-L scale (50%-full-time).
The University of Cologne is an equal opportunity employer in accordance with German law. Women, minorities and persons with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply. The closing date for application is **30.09.2017**, but applications will be considered until a suitable candidate is identified.
Applicants should send a single PDF file containing a CV, educational and grades record, and a short statement of research interests to labadie@ph1.uni-koeln.de. Inquiries on the project can be made at the same address. The names of two referees to whom reference will be asked must be provided.

For further information, please visit www.astro.uni-koeln.de/labadie